exchange reserves (in US $ million) since week-ending August 29,2003 are given in Statement (See below).

(b) India compiles its external debt data on a quarterly basis *i.e.* at end-March, end-June, end-September, and end-December India's external debt as on end-March, 2003 and end-June 2003 stood at US $104.55 billion and US $ 109.58 billion, respectively. The per capita external debt of India at end-December 2002 stood at US $ 101.2.

(c) The forex reserve increase was not attributable to disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)

***Statement***

*India's Weekly Foreign Exchange Reserve (in US $ Million)*

| Week Ending | SDRs | Gold | FCA | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| August 29, 2003 | 3 | 3,628 | 82,624 | 86,255 |
| Sept. 5, 2003 | 3 | 3,720 | 83,642 | 87,365 |
| Sept. 12,2003 | 4 | 3,720 | 84,132 | 87,856 |
| Sept. 19,2003 | 4 | 3,720 | 84,832 | 88,556 |
| Sept. 26, 2003 | 4 | 3,720 | 85,603 | 89,327 |
| Oct. 3, 2003 | 4 | 3,919 | 83,815 | 87,738 |
| Oct. 10,2003 | 4 | 3,919 | 86,430 | 90,353 |
| Oct. 17,2003 | 4 | 3,919 | 87,392 | 91,315 |
| Oct. 24, 2003 | 4 | 3,19 | 87,969 | 91,892 |
| Nov. 7,2003 | 4 | 3,920 | 89,287 | 93,211 |
| Nov. 14,2003 | 3 | 3,920 | 89,740 | 93,663 |
| Nov. 21,2003 | 3 | 3,920 | 91,450 | 95,373 |

**Comparison of Income Tax collections**

2227. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total income-tax collections during April to September, 2003 and the comparative figures for 2002 and 2001 indicating Slab-wise break-

up of the tax collections and the increase in number of tax payees slab-wise; and

(b) whether the increase in tax collections and number of tax payees is largely attributable to tax-payers belonging to lower-income slabs than to higher income slabs and it fo, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRISHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The amount collected as Income Tax during April to September, 2003 and the comparative figures for 2002 and 2001 are detailed below:

| April 2003 to September, 2003 nt in (Amou Crores) | | |
|---|---|---|
| Corporation Tax | Income Tax | Total |
| 19002.34 | 14441.76 | 33444.10 |
| ADril 2002 to September. 2002 | | |
| Corporation Tax | Income Tax | Total |
| 15264.28 | 14341.03 | 29605.31 |
| April 2001 to September. 2001 | | |
| Corporation Tax | Income Tax | Total |
| 11487.96 | 12885.00 | 24372.96 |

The slab-wise break-up of the Tax Collection and the increase in number of Tax Payees slab-wise are not maintained separately. The collection and the compilation of the desired information from the field formations from all over the country will involve substantial time and efforts which may not commensurate to the objective to be achieved.

(b) Since slab-wise break-up of the tax collection is not maintained, this information cannot be generated. The study of available data, however, indicates that the Corporation Tax collection has increased by 24.5% and Income-Tax collection has increased by only 0.7% during April, 2003 to September, 2003.